REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending and under consideration in the above-identified application.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-7 were rejected.

In this Amendment, Claims 1and 6 are amended. No new matter has been introduced as a result of this amendment.

Accordingly, Claims 1-7 remain at issue.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 103 Obviousness Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimura et al. ("Kimura") (U.S. Patent No. 6,518,962) in view of Brody (U.S. Patent No. 4,982,273). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to an organic electroluminescence display having active-matrix circuitry. The organic electroluminescence display comprises a substrate, a device layer provided on the substrate, the device layer comprising a plurality of luminescent devices defining pixel units arrayed in a matrix, each luminescent device having an emitting area that emits independently of the emitting areas of the other luminescent devices, a circuitry layer provided between the substrate and the device layer, the circuitry layer comprising pixel circuits for driving the respective luminescent devices, the pixel circuits defining the pixel units, and contacts electrically connecting each of the luminescent devices with a corresponding pixel circuit, wherein the contacts are not provided under the emitting area of the luminescent devices.

Referring to Applicants' Figure 3 as an illustrative example, Applicants' claimed invention comprises a device layer 38 provided on a substrate 31. The device layer 38 comprising a plurality of luminescent devices defining pixel units arrayed in a matrix. Each luminescent device has an emitting area (*See, e.g.,* Figure 4A) that emits independently of the emitting areas of the other luminescent devices. A circuitry layer 32 is provided between the substrate 31 and the device layer 38. The circuitry layer 32 comprises pixel circuits for driving the respective luminescent devices, the pixel circuits defining the pixel units.

Contacts 39 electrically connect each of the luminescent devices with a corresponding pixel circuit. The contacts 39 are not provided under the emitting area of the luminescent devices.

This is clearly unlike Kimura in view of Brody, which fails to disclose or suggest an

OLED display having contacts that electrically connect luminescent devices with a corresponding pixel circuit, wherein the contacts are not provided under the emitting area of the luminescent devices. The Examiner acknowledges that Kimura fails to teach Applicants' claimed contacts that are located outside of light emitting areas of luminescent devices, but states that Brody does and for support points to a paragraph of the specification starting from column 7, line 54 to column 8, line 18, as well as Figs. 4b and 4c.

In that paragraph, Brody states that (emphasis added):

> "Where a light modulating film is used to provide picture elements 18, each electrical switching element 20 is preferably comprised of a thin film transistor 23 having a gate 24 electrically connected to a row conductive strip 21 and a source 25 electrically connected to a column conductive strip 22. It should be noted that, using techniques well-known in the art, an insulating layer is positioned between the intersection of conductive strips 21 and 22 and between the intersection of gate 24 and the semiconductor extending from source 25 to drain 27. As a part of each switching element 20, insulating layer 26 is placed over the entire first major surface 15, including conductive strips 21 and 22 and transistors 23 except at drains 27 of transistors 23, and then *as shown in FIG. 4c, transparent conductive pads 19 of, for example, indium tin oxide is placed over the insulating layer 26 in contact with the light modulating film to define picture elements 18 and 18' in the light modulating film. Each conductive pad 19 is electrically charged through the drain 27 of a transistor 23.* The electrical circuit of switching element 20 is completed by a transparent conductive layer 28 on the opposite surface of light modulating film containing picture elements 18 and 18' connected to a common ground or to interconnecting conductors as hereinafter described. *The latter alternative also allows the alternative of allowing the light modulating film common to all modules 11 in display 10, to which conductive pads 19 of each module in the array make electrical contact By this layered arrangement of switching elements 20 (shown in FIGS. 4a, 4b and 4c), picture elements 18 and 18' can take up a larger area of module 11 and a brighter television image can be reproduced."*

Thus, Brody teaches and illustrates in FIGs 4b and 4c that the conductive pads (emitting areas) 19 are provided over the corresponding drains (contacts) 27. That is, although these contacts 27 are shown as being at the edges of the emitting areas 19, they are still taught and shown to be provided under these emitting areas 19.

Contrary to the Examiner's repeated assertions, Applicants maintain that Brody's contacts 27 are provided under the emitting areas 19.

For at least these reasons, Kimura in view of Brody fails to teach or suggest Claim 1.

By reciting the same distinguishable limitation as that of Claim 1, Claim 6 is also patentable over Kimura in view of Brody.

Claims 2 – 5 and 7 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1 or 6 and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons that Claims 1 and 6 are patentable.

Applicants respectfully submit these claim rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that Claims 1 – 7 are clearly patentable over the cited prior art, and respectfully requests early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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David R. Metzger
Registration No.: 32,919
SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080
(312) 876-8000

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